REMARKS

Restriction Requirement

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Applicants herein acknowledge the restriction requirement in the above-referenced application. Claims 1 through 37 are currently pending in the application. The Office has identified the following groups of claims as being drawn to separate inventions:

Group I – claims 1 through 29, drawn to a semiconductor device, classified in class 257, subclass 529.

Group II – claims 30 through 37, drawn to a process of using a semiconductor device, classified in class 438, subclass 132.

Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I, claims 1 through 29, without traverse.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants note the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement herein on July 14, 2003, and note that no copy of the PTO-1449 was returned with the outstanding Office Action. Applicants respectfully request that the information cited on the PTO-1449 be made of record herein.

Preliminary Amendment

Applicants' undersigned attorney notes the filing herein of a Preliminary Amendment on October 17, 2003, which filing was not acknowledged in the outstanding Office Action. Should the Preliminary Amendment have failed for some reason to have been entered in the Office file, Applicants' undersigned attorney will be happy to have a true copy thereof hand-delivered to the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

An early Office Action on the merits is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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